(ix) Review of the social security system available for labour in the informal sector, and making recommendations for expanding their coverage.

(c) and (d) The terms of reference of the Commission noted above clarify that measures for (i) improvement in productivity of and (ii) accelerating generation of employment in the informal sector constitute important components of the recommendations that the Commission has been mandated to make in its report(s).

Incentives for SSIs in Rajasthan and Punjab

832. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Small Industries Development Bank of India and the Small Scale Industries Corporation have played any part in giving incentives to small scale industries in Rajasthan and Punjab;

(b) if so, the details thereof, alongwith the details of the type of industries revived or newly set up by small scale entrepreneurs in Rajasthan and Punjab; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) to (c) The Small Scale Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) provide assistance for development, promotion and strengthening of all types of small scale industries on all-India basis, including those in Rajasthan and Punjab, through financial, marketing and technology upgradation schemes. The specific schemes of the SIDBI for Rajasthan and Punjab consist of assistance under Cluster Development Programme, Technology Upgradation Programme, Small Industries Management Programme, Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Awareness Programme, etc. The SIDBI has also taken various initiatives under Micro Credit Scheme Rural Industries Programme and Mahila Vikas Nidhi in the State of Rajasthan. The NSIC's support activities in Rajasthan and Punjab consist of equipment financing, raw material assistance, Government

purchase registration/renewal, infomediary services, etc., covering industries like electrical, hand tools, paints, hosiery, plastics, etc.

Exploration of moon

833. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is also a fact that the Indian Space Research Organisation propose collaboration on a limited scale with other countries in the exploration of the moon;

(b) whether it is also a fact that India had offered to carry 10 kg. of scientific equipment of other countries to be placed on orbit around the moon;

(c) whether it also a fact that the ISRO had received about 30 proposals and six have been short listed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details of six short listed payload proposals are as follows:

(1) A log Energy X-ray Spectrometer for Chandrayaan-1 from United Kingdom;

(2) Near Infra Red Spectrometer from Germany;

(3) Sub KeV Atom Reflecting Analyzer from Sweden;

(4) Radiation Dose Monitor Experiment from Bulgaria;

(5) Mini Synthetic Aperture Radar from USA; and

(6) Planetary Energetic Photons Spectrometer from France.